Making Slips Your Own

Use Basic HTML, CSS and the Template Toolkit to Make Dynamic Notices and Slips

Joe Sikowitz
Systems and Support Manager
Fenway Library Organization (FLO)

Higher Education Libraries of Massachusetts (HELM)



- A network of twelve colleges in MA
 - 11 community colleges
 - ► 1 four-year college
- Koha users since founding in 2017
- FLO provides library support and hosts the catalog
- Collaborative approach to network management

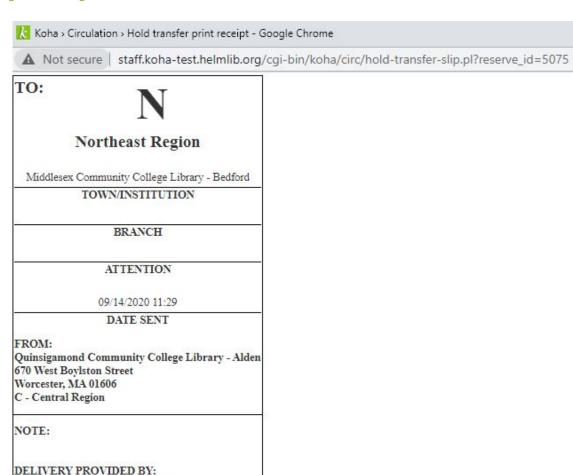
Problem

- You need different slips and notices for different circumstances
- HELM needed the following types of hold slips:
 - Internal hold slip for local requests
 - ComCat (out-of-network) hold slip for non-HELM requests
 - In-network hold slip for HELM requests that mimicked the statewide delivery form

Solution

- Use HTML, CSS, and the Template Toolkit (TT) to create customized solutions
- The logic that TT provides allows different slips to be triggered depending on where the hold is supposed to go

Hold Slip Pop-up



MASSACHUSETTS REGIONAL

LIBRARY SYSTEMS

Possible Applications

- Send different overdue notices to different patron groups
 - Send adults one notice and children another
 - Send students one notice and faculty another
- Send different hold notices based on the item type
 - Send one notice for books and another for laptops
- Print different hold slips based on the destination
 - Print one hold slip for network holds and another for ILL
- Other combinations that you can dream up!

HTML & CSS Example

HTML

<h2>Item is going out on ComCat Loan. Log in to ComCat to complete</h2>

- Text between tags
- Each tag controls formatting of text
- ► In this example, "h2" is a heading tag

HTML & CSS

<div style="border-top: 1px solid black; text-align: center; padding-top: 1px;
font-weight: bold;">TOWN/INSTITUTION</div>

- CSS is additional formatting and provides more control
- ► The "style" attribute allows the modification of the HTML tag (div in this case)

HTML Tables

```
Table tag /

Table row //table>

Table tag /
```

Visual representation of an HTML table:

	>	}
		}
		}

Template Toolkit Overview

- Available in all Koha notices and slips
- A "fast, flexible, and highly extensible template processing system"
- All TT directives are between the [% and %] tags
- Allows the use of conditions, variables, loops, and much more
- Just using conditions and variables can accomplish a lot
- See the <u>TT manual</u> for detailed information
- Koha Wiki has a list of the available variables by notice/slip
- Experimentation is key

Template Toolkit Example

```
[% IF hold.branchcode == 'MCC_B' %]
Print this text
[% END %]
```

This simple example says, "if the hold was placed for the Middlesex-Bedford branch, display the HTML below." If the hold is not for MCC_B, then nothing happens.

HELM Hold Slips Part 1 - Internal Holds

```
[% IF hold.branchcode == 'MCC_B' %]
                                                                       TT if statement
<h1><<borrowers.surname>>,<borrowers.firstname>></h1>
                                                                       Notice/slip
<h5>Date: <<today>></h5>
                                                                       variable
ul>
<<br/>sorrowers.cardnumber>>
<<borrowers.phone>>
<<bor>borrowers.email>>
<br>
                                                                        HTML
<h3>ITEM ON HOLD</h3>
<h4>title:<<biblio.title>> by <<biblio.author>>
ul>
<<items.barcode>>
<!i><<items.itemcallnumber>>
TT else if
[% ELSIF hold.branchcode == 'MCC_L' %]
                                                                  statement
<h2>Use Green Slip - Send to Lowell!</h2>
```

HELM Hold Slips Part 2 - ComCat Holds

HELM Hold Slips Part 3 - In-network Holds

```
[% ELSE %]
20px"><<br/>branches.branchaddress1>></div>
<div style="border-top: 1px solid black; text-align: center; padding-top: 1px; font-weight: bold;">TOWN/INSTITUTION</div>
<div style="text-align: center; padding-bottom: 1px; padding-top: 20px;"></div>
<div style="border-top: 1px solid black; text-align: center; padding-top: 1px; font-weight:</pre>
bold:">BRANCH</div>
<div style="border-top: 1px solid black; text-align: center; padding-top: 1px; font-weight:
bold:">ATTENTION</div>
<div style="border-top: 1px solid black; text-align: center; padding-top: 1px; font-weight: bold;">DATE
SENT</div>
<div style="padding-top: 10px; font-weight: bold;">FROM:</div><div style="padding-bottom: 10px; font-weight: bold; font-size:
15px">Middlesex Community College Library - Bedford<br> 591 Springs Rd.<br>Bedford, MA 01730<br><div style="font-size: 6 pt; font-weight:
bold;">N - Northeast Region</div> </div>
10px; font-weight: bold: font-size: 15px">DELIVERY PROVIDED BY:<br/>br> MASSACHUSETTS REGIONAL<br/>br>LIBRARY SYSTEMS<br/>/td>
```

[% END %]

Adding a Region for State Delivery Service

- Utilizes Address line 3 in library record
- <div style="float: left; font-weight: bold; font-size: 150%;">TO:</div><div style="font-size: 400%; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">W</div><div style="font-size: 150%; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">Western Region</div>

Address line 1:	Holyoke Community College Library	
Address line 2:	303 Homestead Ave	
Address line 3:	<pre><div style="float: left; font-weight: bold; font-size: 150%;">TO:</div><c< pre=""></c<></pre>	
City:	Holyoke	
State:	MA	
ZIP/Postal code:	01040	
Country:	US	

Demo

- Internal hold slip for local requests (MCC_B)
- ComCat (out-of-network) hold slip for non-HELM requests (COMCAT)
- In-network hold slip for HELM requests that mimicked the statewide delivery form (HCC)

Resources

- Koha Wiki—<u>Customizing Notices and Slips</u>
- ► Koha Wiki—Notices with Template Toolkit
- Template Toolkit Manual
- W3Schools—<u>HTML</u>
- ► W3Schools—<u>CSS</u>
- ► <u>HELM</u>

Questions

joe@flo.org
www.flo.org

